Shri Siddharoodha Swami, Hubli, Karnataka, His Teachings and Ashram

Here, in this brief write up, info is given about Shri Siddharoodha Swamy's birth, parents, education, Guru, training under the guru, teachings, followers, travels, Ashram, books published, daily programs, accommodation, sevas and services, charges for poojas, how to reach there, nearby places etc.

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Birth

Shri Siddharoodha Swami was born on 26 March 1836 (Ramanavami day) in Chalakapura (also spelled Chalkapur or Chaalakaapura), Bidar district (Bidarkote, Bhalki taluk), Karnataka. His birth is described as miraculous, with accounts noting divine signs during his mother's pregnancy.

Parents

His father was Sri Guru Shantappa (Gurushantappa), a devotee of Shiva, and his mother was Deva Mallamma. They were simple villagers who recognized their son's spiritual inclinations early on.

Education

Siddharoodha Swami (born Siddha) refused formal schooling at age 5 during his Aksharabhyasa (initiation into learning) ceremony. Instead, he demonstrated profound spiritual insight by explaining the symbolism of Omkara (the sacred syllable Om), astonishing his father and teacher. He declared himself a guru and emphasized inner wisdom over worldly education, focusing on self-realization from a young age.

Guru

His guru was Shri Gajadandaswami (also spelled Gajadanda Swami), a realized Saivite ascetic whom Siddharoodha met at age 7 after renouncing home life. Gajadandaswami initiated him into sannyasa and guided his spiritual path.

Training Under the Guru

Under Gajadandaswami, Siddharoodha served devotedly for 12 years, undergoing rigorous ascetic training, including renunciation (Avadhootashram Diksha) and mantra initiation (Shiva Panchakshari mantra: Om Namah Shivaya). He received the name Parama Siddharudha Bharati (later simplified to Siddharudha Swami). This period involved intense

meditation, service, and study of Advaita Vedanta, preparing him for independent spiritual propagation. His guru eventually instructed him to wander and teach across India.

Teachings

Siddharoodha Swami was a proponent of Saivite Advaita Vedanta, emphasizing non-dualism (all is one, inner divinity in every being), unity of all religions, equality of people (rejecting casteism), selfless service (Dasoha), and devotion to Shiva. He taught that true knowledge leads to liberation, and he lived ascetically, seeing divinity in all existence. His messages promoted spiritual awakening through meditation, bhajans, and ethical living.

Followers

He attracted devotees from all faiths, including notable disciples like Gurunatharudha Swamiji (who succeeded him and established the math) and Swami Muktananda (who studied under him until 1929). Believed to perform miracles, his followers spanned India, with the math serving as a hub for thousands. Today, the lineage continues under Shri Abhinav Shivaputra Swamiji.

Travels

At age 7, he renounced home and wandered as a parivrajaka (wandering ascetic), traveling extensively across India—from Kashmir to Kanyakumari—for over 30 years (mid-19th to late 19th century). He visited holy sites, taught Advaita, and aided seekers before settling in Hubli in 1877 at age 41.

Ashram

The Shri Siddharoodha Swamiji Math (also Siddharudha Math) in Hubballi (Hubli), Karnataka, was established by his disciples in 1917, with Siddharoodha settling there in 1877. It serves as his samadhi site (he attained samadhi on 21 August 1929 at age 93). The ashram promotes Dasoha (free meals), spiritual education, and interfaith harmony, attracting millions annually.

Official website: www.srisiddharoodhaswamiji.in.

Books Published

The math publishes biographies and teachings, including:

Sri Siddharudha Charitamruta (biography): Kannada (Rs 200), English (Rs 150), Marathi (Rs 200).

Jyan Pratipadhan Sthal Grantha (spiritual text): Rs 150.

Small booklets on a brief life sketch of Siddharoodha: Rs 10 each.

Other works include Shri Siddharudha Kathamrit (Marathi, by Swami Brahmavidyananda) and Sri Siddharoodha Charitamrita (Kannada, by Giriyappa Gowda B. Odugoudru, 410 pages).

Daily Programs

The math follows a structured routine focused on worship, discourses, and community service (timings approximate; subject to change):

5:00 AM - 7:00 AM: Suprabhat, Panchamruth Abhisheka (anointing), bhajans, Kakadarati, Mangalarati; decoration of pontiffs' idols.
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM: Shastra Pravachana (lectures on sacred texts) in Pathashala/Preaching Hall.
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM: Prasadam distribution in kitchen hall.
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM: Shastra Pravachana.
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Evening pooja to samadhis.
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM: Special Palanquin Seva (Pallakki) with Maha Mangalarati.
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Mangalarati to samadhis.
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM: Devotional songs in Kailash Mantap.
8:00 PM: Prasadam distribution.
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Pooja to samadhis.
8:30 PM - 10:30 PM: Evening worship/quiet time. Free entry; open 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM daily.

Accommodation

The math offers basic dormitory-style and room accommodations on premises for devotees and visitors. Rooms (e.g., Nos. 301-324) are available at Rs 400 per day. Meals (prasadam) are provided free or nominally via Dasoha. Book via the math office or website; limited availability during festivals.

Sevas and Services

The math offers various sevas (rituals/services) emphasizing devotion and charity:

Religious Rituals: Panchamrut Abhishek (Rs 300), Rudrabhishek (Rs 400), Vehicle Pooja (Rs 150), Anna Prashana/Akshara Mahoortha/Javala (Rs 101 each), Nirantar Abhishek/Pooja for Siddharoodha/Gurunatharudha Swamiji (Rs 2,501 each, once/year).

Charitable/Donation: Dasoha (free meals, Rs 6,001 once/year), Jyan Dasoha/Development/Cultural Funds (donations).

Memberships: Lifetime (Rs 1,001), Patron (Rs 5,001), Guardian (Rs 10,001).

Other: Prasad Kit (Rs 100), Monthly Magazine Subscription (Yearly Rs 100, Lifetime Rs 1,000). All promote selfless service; contact math for bookings.

Charges for Poojas

Basic poojas (e.g., Mangalarati): Free/included in darshan.

Special poojas: As above (e.g., Abhisheks Rs 300-400; Nirantar Rs 2,501).

No entry fee; nominal donations encouraged.
Special rituals during festivals like Maha Shivaratri may have additional offerings.

How to Reach There

By Air: Nearest airport is Hubli Airport (HBX, 8 km away); taxis available (Rs 200-300).

By Train: Hubli Junction (UBL, 4 km); auto-rickshaw (Rs 50-100) or bus.

By Road: On NH-48 (Bengaluru-Pune Highway); well-connected by KSRTC buses from Bengaluru (6-7 hrs), Mumbai (10 hrs).

Math address: Karwar Road, Srinivas Nagar, Old Hubballi - 580024.
GPS: Near Indipump Circle.

Nearby Places

- Unkal Lake (7 km): Scenic spot for boating and picnics.
- Nrupatunga Hill (5 km): Hilltop park with views, ideal for sunset.
- ISKCON Krishna Balarama Temple (6 km): Vibrant Krishna temple.
- Utsav Rock Garden (4 km): Themed garden with sculptures.
- Hubli Railway Museum (3 km): Heritage rail exhibits.
- Dharwad (20 km): Cultural hub with temples like Dattatreya.

Best visited Oct-Jan; combine with Maha Shivaratri Car Festival at the math.

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YouTube Videos

Full Kannada movie: Sri Siddharoodha mahatme: https://youtu.be/f1eQHQMlOQE

Sri Siddharoodha charitre' paarayana grantha' (Kannada): Link to download:

https://app.box.com/s/sfikk0zhwvrl87ycdf3qlp329gif3f1q

Sri Siddharoodha Swamy life story: https://youtu.be/BD19zs-LigA

Sri Siddharoodha Swamy Math, Hubli: https://youtu.be/eyEuZIzQX7Y

Sri Siddharoodha Swamy Samadhi mandir: https://youtu.be/k0jLdruUN6g

Sadguru Sri Siddharoodha devotional songs:Kannada:SP Balasubramanyam: https://youtu.be/x2uaFsJVQdE

Sadguru Sri Siddharoodha Swamy devotional: Kannada: https://youtu.be/yNn28

Om Siddharoodha: Kannada devotional: https://youtu.be/W_k0l7CEgxk

Bhakti geete: https://youtu.be/mdhPLDJRCDM

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

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